



## Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> MLC International Meeting

*Walking Hand In Hand: The Gift of the Laity to the Marianist Family*

The 7<sup>th</sup> MLC International Meeting will be held in South Korea from August 12-18, 2018. We are pleased to invite you to the feast for MLC families around the world, which will be celebrated with a new hope and joy from the Bicentennial of the Marianist's foundation. As it is indicated in the theme for this meeting, we hope the MLC International Meeting in South Korea to be the 'Forum of Festival' in which all Marianists of the world walk in hand in hand toward the Lord and the 'Forum of Communication' in which the Korean Peninsula, suffering from the division of nation, achieve peace through the love of the Christ.

We will do our best for various administrative and communicative needs of the participating MLC families of the world and make efforts particularly for smooth and organized meeting to bring more fruitful outcomes.

### 1. CONTACT INFORMATION

The contact information of the South Korean Local Team is as follows:

Position	Name	Email Address
General Coordinator	Lee Jinbong (Sebastian)	<a href="mailto:jblee9@hotmail.com">jblee9@hotmail.com</a>
Finance Coordinator	Kim Sungtae (Joseph)	<a href="mailto:whysdoc@gmail.com">whysdoc@gmail.com</a>
Reception Coordinator (Registration, VISA, Communication)	Kim Kihong (Paul)	<a href="mailto:paolokiki@gmail.com">paolokiki@gmail.com</a>
Secretariat Coordinator	Kim Heungchun (John)	<a href="mailto:john6008@hanmail.net">john6008@hanmail.net</a>
Temporalities Coordinator (Manager of Local Services)	Yi Hoyeon (Michael)	<a href="mailto:sh357@hanmail.net">sh357@hanmail.net</a>
Spirituality (Liturgies & Prayer) Coordinator	Lee Wonhwa (Clara)	<a href="mailto:Bukmt@hanmail.com">Bukmt@hanmail.com</a>
Translation Coordinator	Kim Kihong (Paul)	<a href="mailto:paolokiki@gmail.com">paolokiki@gmail.com</a>
Media (SNS, Photos) Coordinator	Lim Gyeongdo (Gabriel)	<a href="mailto:ej112234@naver.com">ej112234@naver.com</a>

## 2. LOCATION

The 7<sup>th</sup> MLC International Meeting will be held in Euiwang-si which is approximately 20km south of Seoul, the capital of South Korea. The venue for the meeting is Aaron Retreat House inside St. Lazarus Village, which is not owned by Marianists but is a catholic facility for social welfare services. Korean Marianists do not own a place large enough for the meeting and therefore rented this place. It takes approximately an hour to reach from downtown Seoul by bus or subway.

Facility Name: Aaron Retreat House  
Address: 66, Wongol-ro, Euiwang-si, Gyeonggi-do  
Telephone: +82-31-452-5655

### **Brief Introduction to Seoul, Capital of South Korea:**

Seoul, a historical city embracing modern advancements, is a huge city that has been the capital of Korea since 1394. Approximately 10 million people live inside the city and another 10 million, in the surrounding area, forming a super city with about a half of the South Korean population.

On the north side of the Hangang River which runs through central Seoul is the old section of the city that kept the traces of a long history such as ancient palaces, the Blue House (presidential residence), and city hall. On the south side is the new section of the city with a number of high rises and is the commercial and financial center.

Although there are concerns about safety as South Korea is standing face to face with North Korea, just 40km north of Seoul, South Korea has been known for excellent security in the world and is safe to walk in the back alley even in the middle of the night. Also, South and North Korea and America are currently discussing peace. All of us hope and pray for great results.

## 3. VISA AND CUSTOMS

### **Visa**

According to diplomatic relations of South Korea, some may enter the country without a visa while some may have to obtain a visa in advance. For the convenience of visitors, South Korean government operates a website showing all visa requirements for each country:

Visa Requirements of South Korea: <https://www.visa.go.kr>

This website also offers English pages and is designed to help you check your visa requirements easily. You can also contact the South Korean consulate or embassy near your location.

### **Customs**

All visitors to South Korea must fill out the baggage declaration form and submit it to the customs officer at the immigration desk when entering the country. If you voluntarily declare

items that are not subject to tax exemption, the items will be cleared promptly without inspection, unless there is any suspicion regarding the purpose of entry (travel), duration of travel (stay), age, occupation, quantity of items carried in, and their price. Refer to the website below for details on customs clearance and currency regulations.

Korea Customs Service: <https://www.customs.go.kr>  
(Available in Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese, and Spanish)

As for the purpose of visit, please say "sight-seeing or travelling" instead of saying that you will be attending a religious gathering or meeting. Please note that if you indicate the purpose of visit as "Religious Gathering", it often draws unnecessary attention and leads to misunderstanding and disadvantage.

#### **4. IMMUNITY**

No particular vaccinations are required to enter South Korea. However, we recommend that you update your immunizations. Please follow the recommendations of local authorities for vaccination. Some of the recommended vaccinations are measles, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, Japanese encephalitis, IXIARO, rabies, etc. Tap water is safe to drink although some people may prefer purified or mineral water.

#### **5. CLIMATE AND CLOTHES**

August in South Korea is the hottest month of the year and the average temperature is around 23-27°C (73-80°F) in the morning and evening and 28-35°C (82-95°F) during the day. Humidity is also high in August. We recommend that you bring cool summer clothes and you might need a thin but long-sleeved top for indoor air conditioning. You would not need an umbrella as it would be past rainy season. Most rooms and buildings at the venue are air-conditioned while you might need sunglasses and sun cream during the city tour.

#### **6. RECEPTION AND ARRIVAL**

The meeting will begin with lunch at noon on Sunday August 12, 2018 and continue until noon lunch on Saturday August 18. Please plan your arrival and departure according to the meeting schedule. For your reference, the venue is reserved for the meeting from Friday August 10 to Sunday August 19, 2018. If you are arriving or leaving earlier or later, please contact Kim Kihong (Paul) [paolokiki@gmail.com](mailto:paolokiki@gmail.com) in advance to make arrangements.

The nearest airports to the venue are Incheon International Airport and Gimpo International Airport. Most participants will be arriving at Incheon International Airport, and the local team will pick up the participants based on the application form. If there is any change regarding the arrival date, flight number, terminal information, and more, let us know in advance.

When you pass the immigration desk and pick up your baggage, come out through the arrival gate. Korean MLC will be there outside the arrival gate with a sign to pick you up. If you do not find a sign, call Kim Kihong (Paul) (mobile phone: 010-9445-8369) or Lee Jinbong (Sebastian) (mobile phone: 010-4230-4719) to contact our pick up team. Our pick up team will also bring you back to the airport after the meeting. The venue is approximately 45km away from the airport and it takes about 1:30 hours from airport to the venue by car. If you are arriving from somewhere other than the airport, please contact us in advance.

## **7. VENUE**

Aaron Retreat House is a retreat center inside St. Lazarus Village located on the outskirts of Seoul. It has facilities capable of accommodating various events including retreats, trainings, seminars, and international conferences. When you arrive at Aaron Retreat House, register at the Reception Desk in front of the gate where you will be given a welcome-kit and assigned to a room.

Each room is furnished with a small toilet/shower, a small desk, wardrobe, and air conditioner. Most rooms are shared by two people. The place has no laundry room and you will have to take care of your own laundry. However, if you must, we will help you through the coin laundry outside the venue. Towel and bedsheet will be provided. We recommend that you to bring toiletries such as shampoo and soap.

## **8. PAYMENT OF PARTICIPATION FEES**

The participation fee for each participant as determined by the International Team is USD 775, which will be collected at the Treasury Table during the reception. This is for those who are sharing a room with another participant. The fee of USD 805 will be applied to those who need to use a single room for personal reasons. In Euro, it is 665 Euros (690 Euros for single room). The participation fee includes expenses for meals, city tour, insurance, and general expenses for the meeting such as transportation, materials, and documents. You may also pay the fee in advance by wire transfer using the information below. Please note that only USD, Korean Won, and Euro will be accepted.

Bank Code: KOEXKRSE

Account Number: 427- 910279-70607

Account Holder: Kim ok soon

(Bank Address: 23, Haedoji-ro 120beon-gil, Yeonsu-gu, Incheon, Korea)

Although the Korean currency (won) would not be needed much during the meeting, we are planning to exchange USD and Euros into Korean currency at the Treasury Desk for those who are planning to stay after the meeting to travel in Korea.

## **9. INTERNET CONNECTION AND VOLTAGE**

The venue provides internet and Wi-Fi connections and the local team will set up an office room equipped with computers, a printer, and a copy machine that participants can use. South Korea is on the 220V standard at 60Hz.

#### **10. LITURGY**

Each region will take turns to celebrate Mass every day during the meeting. Contact Lee Wonhwa (Clara) [Bukmt@hanmail.com](mailto:Bukmt@hanmail.com) for anything you need for the Mass. If you need to make preparations such as the songs and prayers for the Mass that need to be translated, the local team will help you as much as they can. You can also bring sacred images or instruments. The local team can also prepare some instruments and other musical supports for you need. Please let us know as early as you can.

#### **11. EVENING CELEBRATIONS**

In the evening, we will have special Cultural Night events by region on various themes from culture to music, arts, food, and so on. Everyone is invited to make the events exciting and meaningful. The events will be held in the main hall where the plenary session will take place.

#### **12. NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Participants will be given a space to represent their country. Bring the items that can represent Marianist life in your country such as the national flag, books, icons, and photos representing your culture, and so on.

#### **13. GIFTS**

At the meeting, participants exchange gifts with each other. We suggest you to bring small gifts that represent your country and culture such as pins, symbols, stamps, bracelets, necklaces, key rings, crosses, and so on.

#### **14. DAY TOUR**

Although there are many attractions we would like to take you to, we chose a few places that most foreign visitors want to visit. In the tour, we included an ancient palace (Gyeongbokgung), the Blue House (presidential residence), DMZ (Demilitarized Zone), and Chaminade Nursing Home (Marianist apostolate).